



ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

CITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Wednesday, May 8, 2013, 1:30 P.M.
3rd Floor, Conference Rooms No. 1 and 2,
El Paso Water Utilities, 1154 Hawkins Blvd.

Members Present: 6

Bill G. Addington, Richard Teschner, Katrina Martich, James Tolbert, Chairman Charlie Wakeem, Joseph Nester, James Graham,

Members Absent: 1

Lois A. Balin

Vacancies: 1

Planning Staff:

Kimberly Forsyth, Lead Planner; Harrison Plourde.

Others Present:

Karla Nieman, Assistant City Attorney; Marci Tuck, Parks and Recreation; Rudy Valdez, EPWU-PSB; Sherry Bonart, Citizen; Gonzalo Cedillos, EPWU-PSB.

1. Meeting Called to Order

Chair Wakeem called the meeting to order at 1:34 pm

2. Call to the Public (items not listed on the agenda)

None.

3. Discussion and Action

- a. Approval of Minutes: March 13, 2013

ACTION:

*Motion made by Dr. Teschner, seconded by Ms. Martich and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR MARCH 13, 2013 AS PRESENTED.***

b. Changes to the Agenda

None.

4. **Discussion and Action:** Private donation of a 9.986 acre parcel of land legally described as Tract 3, AB 2732, J.A. Friedenbloom Survey No. 130; and located north of the Kern View Estates No. 2 and Sierra Crest Replat B Subdivisions and east of the Mission Hills Subdivision.
Contact: Charlie Wakeem, charliewak@sbcglobal.net

Mr. Bill Hooten, representative, was present and responded to questions and comments from the board and staff.

MOTION:

Motion made by Ms. Martich, seconded by Mr. Tolbert, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED THAT THE OSAB RECOMMENDS THAT CITY COUNCIL ACCEPT THE LAND DONATION PENDING THE CITY'S DUE DILIGENCE PROCESS AND THAT THE CITY COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO INITIATE THE REZONING PROCESS FROM THE PROPERTY'S CURRENT ZONING DISTRICT TO THE NOS (NATURAL OPEN SPACE) ZONING DISTRICT WITH THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE DONATION.

No further action was taken.

5. **Discussion and Action:** Quarterly report from the Planning Division, Subdivisions Section regarding land studies and plats approved in the Mountain and Hillside Development areas.
Contact: Kimberly Forsyth, ForsythKL@elpasotexas.gov

Kimberly Forsyth gave a powerpoint presentation on an up-to-date quarterly report on plats and land studies. She informed the Board of one approved re-plat in April and also noted that no comments were received from other departments regarding this re-plat.

No action taken.

6. **Discussion and Action:** Quarterly report from the El Paso Water Utility-Public Service Board regarding the status of stormwater funding for Open Space acquisition and restoration.
Contact: Rudy Valdez, rvaldez@epwu.org

Rudy Valdez informed the Board that the back-up previously given is incorrect, therefore, he handed out copies of the correct back-up. Mr. Valdez proceeded with a powerpoint presentation and informed of changes made on additional monies that were collected for January through the end of March in the amount of \$125, 665, and \$160,000 which was spent for the Montalvo Park Irrigation Project.

Concern regarding the appropriateness of landscaping for park ponds funded by the 10 percent stormwater management fund was expressed by Chair Wakeem. The Board requested that staff research this matter and provide the Board with legal and engineering rationale for a previously

funded park pond project, known as the Saipan project. Staff agreed to provide the Board with findings in two months time.

No action taken.

7. **Presentation and Update:** Regional conservation efforts by the Frontera Land Alliance.
Contact: Jenaë' Reneaud, Janae@frontaeralandalliance.org

No action taken.

8. **Discussion and Action:** Update on the status of access improvements to the Palisades, located north of the Sierra Crest and Los Compadres subdivisions at the southern end of the Franklin Mountains.
Contact: Marci Tuck, tuckmj@elpasotexas.gov

MOTION:

Motion made by Mr. Tolbert, seconded by Dr. Teschner, TO RECOMMEND THAT CITY COUNCIL APPOINT A PROJECT COORDINATOR AGAIN.

MOTION WITHDRAWN.

No action taken.

9. **Discussion and Action:** Continued working session to discuss and prioritize potential Quality of Life Bond fund Open Space acquisition opportunities.
Contact: Marci Tuck, tuckmj@elpasotexas.gov

MOTION:

Motion made by Mr. Wakeem, seconded by Mr. Tolbert, TO ADD 14.5 AREAS SITE ACQUISITION TO PRIORITY LIST.

MOTION WITHDRAWN.

MOTION:

Motion made by Dr. Teschner, seconded by Mr. Tolbert, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO RECOMMEND FOUR (4) AREAS AS TOP PRIORITIES FOR ACQUISITION USING OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION FUNDS ALLOCATED IN THE 2012 QUALITY OF LIFE (QOL) BOND AS FOLLOWS, IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER:

1. *EASTERN SLOPES OF THE FRANKLIN MOUNTAINS, FROM HONDO PASS ROAD AND CONTINUING SOUTH TO THE SOUTHERN TIP OF THE FRANKLIN MOUNTAINS.*

2. ***RIO GRANDE CORRIDOR LANDS IN MISSION VALLEY, FROM DOWNTOWN EL PASO TO SOCORRO.***
3. ***MESA HILLS ARROYO AND SPECIFICALLY THE PORTION(S) OF THE PARCEL(S) NOT ELIGIBLE FOR ACQUISITION USING STORMWATER FUNDS.***
4. ***AVISPA CANYON AND SPECIFICALLY THE PORTION(S) OF THE PARCEL(S) NOT ELIGIBLE FOR ACQUISITION USING STORMWATER FUNDS.***

No further action was taken.

10. Discussion and Action: Items for Future Agendas.

- a. Update by the Natural Open Space Subcommittee.
- b. Discussion on an amendment to achieve quorum with the City Attorney's office.
- c. Revisit February recommendation regarding the Palisades.
- d. Mesa Hills arroyo research.

No action was taken.

11. Adjournment

MOTION:

Motion made by Dr. Teschner, seconded by Mr. Graham and UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 4:32 P.M.